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LETTER DATED 5 AUGUST 1992 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRALIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Australian Government is deeply distressed by the widespread violations of the most basic principles of humanitarian law in the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Among these violations have been reports of particularly disturbing abuses in certain detention centres in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Australian Government wishes to associate itself with the Security Council's condemnation of these violations of humanitarian law contained in the Council's statement of 4 August (S/24378). The Australian Government supports the Council's demand that immediate, unimpeded and continuous access be given to groups like the International Committee of the Red Cross to all detention camps on the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

The widening cycle of violence makes it more urgent than ever for the parties principal and the international community to redouble efforts to find a political resolution to this tragic conflict.

I would be grateful if you could arrange to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gillian BIRD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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